

THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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J.C.Spilman, Editor

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Serial No. 33

CONNECTICUT COPPERS

EDWARD R. BARNESLEY



❧ CORRIGENDA MILLERENSIS ❧

It has been nearly eight years since The Colonial Newsletter, Serial No.11, published "Miller's Connecticut Listings Updated", which was an attempt to codify the many attribution changes which had been made to the basic classification system of Connecticut Coppers written by Henry Clay Miller and published posthumously in 1920 by The American Numismatic Society.

In this interval, several new dies and many new pairings of old dies have been reported. Likewise, important attribution changes have been made upon reappraisal of old decisions, and those egregious errors that crept into our 1964 list have been corrected. Inasmuch as these various attribution changes now total 70, we thought it fitting to prepare revised Check Lists to clarify all these additions and deletions into one set of tables. We hope they will prove to be a convenience to the ever increasing number of collectors of this complex series of Early American coins.

The recent upsurge of interest in Connecticut State coinage is the result of several factors. First, some extremely large collections have been offered on the open market; and secondly, dealers are more and more advertising their lots by Miller attributions instead of type variety alone. And last but not least, there has been the availability of a fine reprint of "Miller" at the nominal cost of \$3.95, so now this standard reference is no longer in the Rare Book category. The original edition of 200 copies sold for only \$3.00 each, but today one of these in perfect condition is priceless.

Analysis of the appended tables shows the 312 die pairings in Miller's "List of Varieties and Combinations", plus 52 additions which have been reported since 1920. This includes the six mulings of Connecticut reverses with other series. All of these additions are marked with a plus sign so the reader can readily correct

his own copy of "Miller". Also - 18 deletions from Miller's list have been enclosed by parentheses, because most old collections continue to label their specimens according to the original nomenclature, and such identifications cannot be ignored.

Thirty-three die changes are involved, all of which have been reported in previous issues of The Colonial Newsletter except two; namely, reverse F.6 of 1785, and obverse 33.48 of 1787, neither of which has been described numismatically. E. P. Newman confirmed on April 21, 1966 (personal communication) that both reverses of the two known specimens called 4.2 - F.4 differed in detail from the common F.4 reverse paired with obverse 4.1. Hence he called this newly discovered reverse F.6, which was the next open number, and the two exemplars were redesignated 4.2 - F.6. The other new die, obverse 33.48, was discovered by Richard Picker in 1970 when he was preparing the Massachusetts Historical Society collection for public sale. It was paired with the rare reverse Z.25. Condition of the coin was described as good, and both sides of the piece were illustrated as Lot 155 of Stack's auction catalog, October 23, 1970.

Twenty-six new dies were added to "Miller", as follows:

1785 -- Obverse 7.2
Reverse F.6

1786 -- Obverse 2.3, 2.4, 5.13, and 5.14
Reverse C, S, T, and U

1787 -- Obverse 32.9, 33.46, 33.47, 33.48, 37.15, 43.2, and 56
Reverse G.2, T.3, X.7, Z.25, h.3, mm, and XX

1788 -- Reverse F.2, and S

Name changes were made to seven Miller dies, as follows:

1785 -- Obverse 5 same as Miller 5.1 and 5.2
Obverse 7.1 same as Miller 7
Reverse K same as Miller K.1

1786 -- No change

1787 -- Obverse 43.1 same as Miller 43
Reverse G.1 same as Miller G

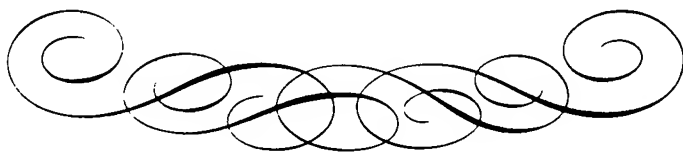
1788 -- Obverse 16.7 same as Miller 15.3
Reverse F.1 same as Miller F.

The editor of Numismatic Review, writing in January 1946, about the completeness of Miller's work, said: "When one has evidence of great care and thoroughness in a list, additions to it are of outstanding importance. It is proverbial that no book is perfect, which is the work of humanity. Surely it is more pleasant to add a little to an extremely good book than to list numerous errors of a bad one." This statement is even more true today, because all we can do now to improve "Miller" is to add information about the few newly discovered pieces which were unavailable to this master numismatist. Corrections to "Miller" are indeed minuscule.

It should be noted that the reverse list of die combinations contains six more entries than those in the obverse listing. This is because three Connecticut reverses are muled with obverses of other series; namely, Tory halfpennies, and coppers of the Republic of Vermont. These "Semi-Connecticuts" have been given attribution numbers to identify them with the Miller system of taxonomy, as follows:

- 1787 -- 101-G.2 Miller reverse G.2 with GEORGIVS III. REX. obverse.
("Small Head" Tory Halfpence).
- 1788 -- 101-D Miller reverse D with same obverse as above.
- 1788 -- 100-I Miller reverse I with GEORGVIS. III. REX. obverse.
("Large Head" Tory Halfpence). Same as Vermont Ryder 31.
- 1788 -- 125-I Miller reverse I with VERMON+ AUCTORI+obverse.
Same as Vermont Ryder 25.
- 1788 -- 128-I Miller reverse I with VERMON * * AUCTORI obverse.
Same as Vermont Ryder 28.
- 1788 -- 129-I Miller reverse I with *VERMON * *AUCTORI * obverse.
Same as Vermont Ryder 29.

Our new Check Lists are presented on sequential pages 340 and 341.



CONNECTICUT COPPERS

DIE COMBINATIONS IN NUMERICAL SEQUENCE BY OBTVERSE

1785	1786	1787						1788
1-E	1-A	1.1-A	16.6-N\N.2	33.1-Z.13	33.20-Z.9	33.40-Z.1	39.2-ee	1-I
2-A.1	2.1-A	1.1-VV	17-g.3	33.1-Z.19	33.20-Z.11	33.40-Z.2	40-N	2-D
2-A.4	2.1-D.3	1.2-C	18-g.1	33.2-Z.5	33.21-Z.13	33.41-Z.11	40-kk.1	3.1-B.1
3.1-A.3	2.2-D.2	+ 1.2-mm	19-g.4	33.2-Z.12	+ 33.21-k.4	33.42-Z.2	41-ii	3.2-B.2
+ 3.1-F.3	+ 2.3-T	1.3-L	20-a.2	33.2-Z.17	+ 33.21-EE	33.43-q	42-o	4.1-B.1
3.1-L	+ 2.4-U	1.4-WW	21-DD	33.2-Z.22	33.22-II	33.43-hh.2	42-kk.2	+ 4.1-B.2
3.2-L	3-D.1	2-B	22-g.2	33.3-W.1	33.23-Z.4	33.44-W.3	(43-Y)	4.1-K
3.3-F.3	3-D.4	(3-G)	24-g.3	33.4-Z.2	33.23-hh.2	33.45-W.2	+ 43.1-Y	4.2-R
3.4-F.1	+ 4.1-C	+ 3-G.1	24-g.5	33.4-q	33.24-Z.10	+ 33.46-Z.21	+ 43.2-X.4	5-B.2
3.4-F.2	4.1-G	4-L	24-FF	33.5-T.2	33.25-W.3	+ 33.47-TT	44-W.4	6-H
3.5-B	4.2-R	5-P	25-b	33.6-KK	33.25-Z.10	+ 33.48-Z.25	44-W.5	7-E
(3.5-K.2)	+ 4.2-S	6.1-M	25-m	+ 33.7-Z.9	33.25-Z.24	34-k.3	44-Z.10	(7-F)
4.1-F.4	5.1-H.1	6.2-M	26-a.1	33.7-r.2	33.26-W.3	34-ff.1	45-CC	+ 7-F.2
(4.2-F.4)	5.2-H.1	7-I	26-kk.1	33.7-r.4	33.26-W.5	36-k.3	46-BB	7-K
+ 4.2-F.6	5.2-I	8-N	26-AA	33.8-Z.13	33.27-Z.16	36-1.1	47-a.3	8-K
4.3-A.2	+ 5.2-L	8-O	27-a.1	33.8-Z.19	33.27-r.4	36-ff.2	48-g.5	9-E
4.3-D	5.2-O.2	+ 8-a.1	28-m	33.9-s.2	33.28-Z.11	37.1-cc.1	+ 48-k.3	10-C
4.4-C	5.3-B.2	9-D	28-n	33.10-W.6	33.28-Z.16	37.2-k.5	49-Z.1	11-G
4.4-D	5.3-G	9-E	28-o	33.10-Z.7	33.28-Z.20	37.3-i	50-F	12.1-E
+ 5-F.5	5.3-N	9-R	29.1-a.2	33.10-Z.8	+ 33.29-Z.25	37.4-k.1	(52-G)	(12.1-F)
(5.1-F.5)	5.4-G	10-E	29.1-n	33.11-Z.18	33.29-gg.1	(37.4-RR)	+ 52-G.1	+ 12.1-F.1
(5.2-F.5)	5.4-N	11.1-E	29.1-p	33.11-gg.1	33.30-EE	37.5-e	+ 52-G.2	12.2-C
6.1-A.1	5.4-O.1	11.2-K	29.2-N	33.12-W.3	33.30-SS	37.6-B	53-FF	12.2-E
6.2-F.1	5.5-M	11.3-K	29.2-o	33.12-Z.16	33.31-gg.2	37.6-k.4	(55-F)	13-A.1
6.3-G.1	5.6-M	12-Q	30-X.1	33.12-Z.21	33.32-Z.13	37.7-h.2	+ 56-XX	14.1-L.2
6.3-G.2	5.7-H.1	13-D	30-hh.1	33.12-Z.24	33.33-Z.3	37.8-k.2		+ 14.1-S
6.4-F.5	5.7-O.2	14-H	31.1-r.4	33.13-Z.1	33.33-Z.11	37.8-HH		14.2-A.2
6.4-I	5.8-F	15-F	31.1-gg.1	33.13-Z.6	33.34-W.2	37.8-LL		15.1-L.1
+ 6.4-K	5.8-H.2	15-R	31.2-r.3	33.13-q	33.34-Z.3	37.9-e		15.2-P
(6.4-K.1)	5.8-O.2	15-S	32.1-X.3	33.13-hh.2	33.34-Z.11	37.10-RR		(15.3-P)
6.5-M	5.9-B.1		32.2-X.1	+ 33.14-Z.2	+ 33.35-Z.1	37.11-ff.2		16.1-D
(7-D)	+ 5.9-L		32.2-X.2	33.14-Z.14	33.35-Z.9	37.12-LL		16.1-H
+ 7.1-D	5.9-Q		32.2-X.4	33.15-r.1	33.36-T.1	37.12-TT		16.2-O
+ 7.2-D	5.10-L		32.3-X.4	33.16-T.2	+ 33.36-T.2	37.13-HH		16.3-N
8-D	5.10-P		+ 32.4-F	33.16-Z.15	33.36-T.3	37.14-cc.2		+ 16.4-A.2
	5.11-R		32.4-X.5	33.16-1.2	33.36-SS	+ 37.15-h.3		16.4-L.2
	(5.12-L)		32.4-Z.3	33.17-r.1	33.37-Z.9	38-1.2		16.5-H
	+ 5.13-I		32.4-Z.20	33.17-r.5	+ 33.37-Z.11	38-GG		(16.6-H)
	+ 5.14-S		32.5-aa	33.17-gg.2	33.38-Z.1	39.1-h.1		+ 16.7-P
	6-K		32.6-X.6	33.18-Z.24	33.38-Z.6	39.1-ff.2		17-O
	7-K		32.7-X.1	33.19-Z.1	33.38-Z.18			17-Q
	(8-O.1)		32.8-aa	33.19-Z.2	33.38-Z.23			
			+ 32.9-X.7	33.19-q	33.38-gg.1			
					+ 33.39-Z.13			
					33.39-Z.20			
					33.39-s.1			

Additions to Miller are prefixed with a plus sign

Deletions from Miller are enclosed by parentheses

CONNECTICUT COPPERS

DIE COMBINATIONS IN ALPHABETICAL SEQUENCE BY REVERSE

1785	1786	1787						1788
2 - A.1 6.1-A.1	1 - A 2.1-A	1.1-A	33.3-W.1	33.10-Z.8	+ 8 -a.1	28 - o	41 - ii	13 - A.1
4.3-A.2	5.9-B.1	2 - B 37.6-B	33.34-W.2 33.45-W.2	+ 33.7 - Z.9 33.20-Z.9 33.35-Z.9 33.37-Z.9	26-a.1 27-a.1	29.2-o 42 - o	26 - kk.1 40 - kk.1	14.2-A.2 + 16.4-A.2
3.1-A.3	5.3-B.2	1.2-C	33.12-W.3 33.25-W.3 33.26-W.3 33.44-W.3	33.7 - Z.10 33.24-Z.10 33.25-Z.10 44 - Z.10	20 - a.2 29.1-a.2	16.5-p 29.1-p	42 - kk.2	3.1-B.1 4.1-B.1
2 - A.4	+ 4.1-C	9 - D 13-D	44-W.4	33.20-Z.11 33.28-Z.11 33.33-Z.11 33.34-Z.11	47-a.3	33.4 -q 33.13-q 33.19-q 33.43-q	+ 1.2 - mm	3.2-B.2 + 4.1-B.2 5 - B.2
3.5-B	3 - D.1	9 - E 10 - E 11.1-E	33.26-W.5 44 - W.5	33.20-Z.11 33.28-Z.11 33.33-Z.11 33.34-Z.11	25-b	26 - AA	46 - BB	10 - C 12.2-C
4.4-C	2.2-D.2	15 - F + 32.4-F 50 - F (55 - F)	30 - X.1 32.2-X.1 32.7-X.1	+ 33.37-Z.11 33.41-Z.11	37.5-e 37.9-e	45 - CC	21 - DD	2 - D 16.1-D * 101 - D
4.3-D 4.4-D (7 - D) + 7.1-D + 7.2-D 8 - D	3 - D.4	(3 - G) (52-G)	32.2-X.2	33.2-Z.12	18-g.1	33.15-r.1 33.17-r.1	33.7-r.2 + 33.21-EE 33.30-EE	7 - E 9 - E 12.1-E 12.2-E
1 - E	5.8-F	+ 3 - G.1 + 52-G.1	32.1-X.3	33.1 - Z.13 33.8 - Z.13 33.21-Z.13 33.32-Z.13 + 33.39-Z.13	22-g.2	31.2-r.3	24 - FF 53 - FF	(7 - F) (12.1-F)
3.4-F.1 6.2-F.1	5.1-H.1 5.2-H.1 5.7-H.1	+ 52 - G.2 * 101-G.2	32.2-X.4 32.3-X.4 + 43.2-X.4	33.14-Z.14	17-g.3 24-g.3	33.17-r.4 33.27-r.4	38 - GG	+ 12.1-F.1
3.4-F.2	5.8-H.2	14-H	32.4-X.5	33.16-Z.15	19-g.4	33.17-r.5	37.8 - HH 37.13-HH	+ 7 - F.2
+ 3.1-F.3 3.3-F.3	5.2 - I + 5.13-I	7-I	32.6-X.6	33.12-Z.16 33.27-Z.16 33.28-Z.16	39.1-h.1	33.39-s.1	33.22-II	11 - G
4.1-F.4 (4.2-F.4)	6 - K 7 - K	11.2-K 11.3-K	+ 32.9-X.7	33.2-Z.17	37.7-h.2	33.9-s.2	33.6-KK	6 - H 16.1-H 16.5-H (16.6-H)
+ 5 - F.5 (5.1-F.5) (5.2-F.5) 6.4-F.5	+ 5.2-L + 5.9-L 5.10-L (5.12-L)	1.3-L 4 - L	33.13-Z.1 33.19-Z.1 + 33.35-Z.1 33.38-Z.1 33.40-Z.1 49 - Z.1	33.11-Z.18 33.38-Z.18	+ 37.15-h.3	(16.5-u)	37.8 - LL 37.12-LL	1 - I * 100-I ** 125-I ** 128-I ** 129-I
+ 4.2-F.6	5.5-M 5.6-M	6.1-M 6.2-M	33.35-Z.1 33.38-Z.1 33.40-Z.1 49 - Z.1	33.1-Z.19 33.8-Z.19	37.3-i	32.5-aa 32.8-aa	16.2-NN.1 16.6-NN.2	4.1-K 7 - K 8 - K
6.3-G.1	5.3-N 5.4-N	8 - N 29.2-N 40 - N	33.4 - Z.2 + 33.14-Z.2 33.19-Z.2 33.40-Z.2 33.42-Z.2	+ 32.4 - Z.20 33.28-Z.20 33.39-Z.20	37.4-k.1	37.1-cc.1	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	15.1-L.1 14.1-L.2 16.4-L.2
6.3-G.2	5.4-O.1 (8 - O.1)	12-Q	32.4 - Z.3 33.33-Z.3 33.34-Z.3	33.2-Z.21 33.12-Z.21 + 33.46-Z.21	37.8-k.2	37.14-cc.2	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	16.3-N
6.4-I	5.4-O.2	9 - R 15-R	+ 33.19-Z.4 33.23-Z.4	33.2-Z.22	+ 33.21-k.4 37.6-k.4	39.2-ee	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	16.2-O 17 - O
+ 6.4-K	5.10-P	15-S	33.13-Z.6 33.38-Z.6	33.12-Z.24 33.18-Z.24 33.25-Z.24	37.2-k.5	39.2-ee	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	15.2-P (15.3-P) + 16.7-P
(6.4-K.1)	5.9-Q	33.36-T.1	33.10-Z.7 33.13-Z.7 33.29-Z.7	+ 33.29-Z.25 + 33.48-Z.25	36-l.1	39.1 - ff.2	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	17 - Q
(3.5-K.2)	4.2 - R 5.11-R	33.35-T.2 33.16-T.2 33.36-T.2	33.10-Z.7 33.13-Z.7 33.29-Z.7	+ 33.29-Z.25 + 33.48-Z.25	36-l.1	39.1 - ff.2	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	4.2 - R
3.1-L 3.2-L	+ 2.3-T	+ 33.36-T.3	33.10-Z.7 33.13-Z.7 33.29-Z.7	+ 33.29-Z.25 + 33.48-Z.25	36-l.1	39.1 - ff.2	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	+ 14.1-S
6.5-M	+ 2.4-U				16.1-m 25 - m 28 - m	39.1 - ff.2	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	
					16.4-n 16.5-n 28 - n 29.1-n	39.1 - ff.2	33.30-SS 33.36-SS	

* indicates British ½ d. obverses 100 and 101

** indicates Vermont obverses 125, 128 and 129

LETTERS

 and TECHNICAL NOTES

A TRACE OF HORATIO

(TN-32)

from Raymond H. Williamson
Lynchburg, Virginia

In scanning over the back issues of CNL I have worked up quite an interest in Horatio N. Rust -- he of the "New Haven" Fugio Restrikes. I hoped he would be pictured (but he was not) in the plate of 48 individual collectors' photos in Mason's Coin Collectors Magazine between pages 22 and 23 of Vol. 3, 1869; I cannot tell whether the plate was at the end of the February issue or the beginning of the March issue. It included collectors from all over the country, but mainly from the northeastern states. In Mason's editorial in the March 1869 issue (Volume 3, No. 3, p.32) he offers extra copies at 25 cents each and an enlarged plate at \$2.00 each. He planned a "Coin Collectors Gallery Plate No.2", but I doubt it was ever issued. He said he was sending copies of the issue containing the small plate to all public libraries and scientific associations free; I wonder if any of the large plates survive? If so, they would sure pep up articles involving collectors of that era.

There was a faint trace of Mr. Rust in a Mason's Magazine item in the October 1868 issue (my notes are in conflict; they also cite Vol.2, No.9, Dec.1868, p86) with reference to collectors at the Randall Sale. "Among those present were the well-known collectors, R.C.Davis, William Fewsmith, A.M., Dr. Dickeson, Kline, Wells, Campbell, Ralston, Martin (he of the Post Office), Mahoney, Jenks, Jackson, Petrie (of Hotel renown), Roberts, Jones (the numismatic author), Porter, Alexander, "Moneta", Moore, Leutze, Snyder (he of the Reading R.R.), and the welcome and inevitable "Cash" (he of the Treasury Dep't.)

"Of those represented by Messrs. Cogan, Mason & Kline, we caught the names of Harris, Sanford, Elliott, Ufford, Bailey, Bohea, Stoblien, Duncan, Clark, Phillips, RUST, Abbott, Emerson, Payfer, Wilder, Mott, Hennessy, Gschwend, Cook, Barnhard, Marshall, Bates, Oram, Keeney, Dawley, Porter, Converse, Steele, Bollar, Sellers, Williamson, Birch and some half dozen others."

Sure, it's just a trace, but I'll bet Horatio was at the Randall Sale; or more likely, absent and "represented".

MORE **LETTERS** and TECHNICAL NOTES

MATTHIAS OGDEN and THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

(TN-33)

from T. D. Howe

Houston, Texas

Although it has nothing to do with New Jersey Coppers, it may interest our Patrons to know that Matthias Ogden -- who in 1786 bound himself as surety for Walter Mould and Albion Cox and subsequently, in 1788 as surety, received the equipment replevined by Cox, then insolvent, from Goadsby -- was an active participant in the revolution of the Colonies against England.

In Volume 10 of "Sixty Famous Cases", copyrighted 1956 by Marshall Van Winkle and published by William S. Ayres (Library of Congress #56-8737), I find on pages 107 & 108 the following data which I have taken the liberty of excerpting and paraphrasing:

In 1781 Prince William Henry, Duke of Clarence, then 16, came to New York as a midshipman on the "Prince George" - a frigate of 98 guns. He was the first member of the English Royal family to set foot on American soil and had been told by the Loyalists that if peace were declared he would be King of America.

During the British occupation of New York City most of the residents were Tories, and the Prince - then living with Sir Henry Clinton, Commander and Chief of the British forces in lodgings in Hanover Square - was able to go about freely.

Ogden, then Colonel of the First Jersey Regiment, submitted to General Washington a plan to kidnap the Prince in which he proposed to use four whale boats in charge of an army captain, a lieutenant, three sergeants and a complement of thirty six men in the boats. The men were to wait for a rainy night and then, with muffled oars to row from a point in New Jersey to Coenties Slip off the mouth of the East River. Buildings in other parts of the city were to be set on fire to distract attention. Ogden intended, himself, to lead the Americans and hoped to get not just the Prince but an Admiral as well, forcing doors if necessary.

Washington authorized the expedition by letter.

" To Colonel Ogden, of the First New Jersey Regiment.

Sir:

The spirit of enterprise so conspicuous in your plan for surprising in their quarters and bringing off the Prince William Henry and Admiral Digby merits applause; and you have my authority to make the attempt in my name and at such time as your judgement shall direct. I am fully persuaded it is unnecessary to caution you against offering insult or indignity to the persons of the Prince or the Admiral should you be so fortunate to capture them.

In the case of success you will as soon as you get them to a place of safety treat them with all possible respect, but you are to delay no time in conveying them to Congress and reporting your proceedings with a copy of these orders.

Given at Morris Town this twenty eighth day of March 1782.

G. Washington "

The plan became known, possibly through an informer, and the boats were discovered on the Jersey shore. On the discovery of the plot additional soldiers were thrown around Hanover Square whereupon Washington told Colonel Ogden that the plan had been deranged and was to be abandoned.

William Henry was nearly 65 before his brother's death brought him to the throne in 1830 as William IV. Thus he survived Ogden by 36 years.



A UNIQUE HIBERNIA HALFPENNY DIE TRIAL DATED 1723 & 1724 (TN-34)
Dr. Stanley I. Sherr & William Anton, Jr.

We wish to report the discovery of a unique trial piece prepared from two reverse Wood's Hibernia halfpenny dies (harp left, Type 1) dated 1723 and 1724. The mule is pressed in lead on an irregular oversized planchet with an approximate diameter of 3.2 centimeters. The specimen weighs 19.35 grams (298.74 grains) and has a specific gravity of 10.6 grams per cubic centimeter. Pure pressed lead has a specific gravity of 11.35 grams per cc so it is evident that this is a mixture of lead with other metals; calculations indicate that a mixture of 87.5% lead with 12.5% tin would result in a specific gravity of 10.6 grams per cc. Enlarged photographs of each side of the specimen are shown below.



To establish the basic composition of the planchet material, an X-ray fluorescence spectral analysis was accomplished which indicated lead and tin as the major elements, thus confirming our estimate of its composition. In his book Analysis of Ancient Metals (Pergamon Press; New York, 1964), Dr. Earle R. Caley notes that many tests of this type have been reported but that it is not likely that these reports reflect the true composition of the coins which were tested because of the phenomenon of "surface enrichment". Dr. Caley's book also has a chapter dealing with the identification of lead and tin artifacts, but the closest comparison with metal of this composition deals with some samples of Roman lead-tin dishes found in England, but this has little application here. We do recommend the book, however, for its complete analysis of ancient Roman and Greek gold, silver, and copper coins by time periods of history.

Accordingly, since the die trial was struck on an oversize planchet, we decided to remove a very small portion from one edge for destructive spectrographic analysis to see whether trace metal analysis would be of help in identification of the time period in which the specimen was struck, since it is possible that the original dies survived for many years. As is seen in the accompanying table, 1% to 5% antimony is present as well as significant amounts of bismuth, arsenic, copper and silver. Thanks are due to Mr. Arnold Lincoln of Englehard Industries, Newark, New Jersey for the X-ray fluorescence and the spectrographic analysis.

SEMI-QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF HIBERNIA HALFPENNY DIE TRIAL DATED 1723 and 1724

<u>Element</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Elements Not Detected</u>
Lead	Major element	Zinc
Tin	Second major element	Chromium
Antimony	1% to 5%	Manganese
Bismuth	Less than 0.10 ppm	Boron
Arsenic	0.02 ppm	Cobalt
Copper	0.02	Cadmium
Silver	0.01	Molybdenum
Iron	0.002	Vanadium
Silicon	0.002	Zirconium
Magnesium	0.002	
Calcium	0.002	
Aluminum	0.001	
Nickel	Less than 0.001	
Titanium	Less than 0.001	

Note: ppm = parts per million

It would be interesting to compare this analysis with that of lead artifacts of the early 18th century found in Ireland. We do not believe that our knowledge of metallurgy is sufficient to establish whether this analysis is consistent with early lead manufacturing processes or that of a later period.

There is a high degree of luster in the fields of this die trial and this is quite exceptional for a lead pressing which may be 250 years old unless a film of oil or grease has coated the piece for much of its lifetime. The piece does not wet when placed in water which indicates that a film of some sort covers the surfaces. We must reject the theory that the dies remained unknown for many years before being discovered as there are no rust spots evident on the pressing. The dies might have remained rust free if immersed in a sealed jar of oil, but this seems very unlikely.

The seated figure and eight stringed harp is similar to one die variety of the 1722 issue as are the stops before and after HIBERNIA as well as after the date. The letter punches and first three number punches are also similar to those found on this die variety (Vlack B.2n -- the only reverse die known for the year 1722.)

The numeral 3 is the small 3 found on some harp right halfpence of that year while the numeral 4 is similar to one of the two 4 punches used on the halfpence of 1724. The beads in the border are also similar to those found on the 1722

harp left issues. The radial flow of metal to the periphery indicates that the pressing was made by slow steady pressure as one might expect to find if a screw press were used.

Die trials in lead are not unusual, but they are usually uniface or else display impressions of the obverse and reverse dies normally used together. For example, a die trial in lead of the normal obverse and reverse dies of the 1723 farthing with eleven harpstrings is in the American Numismatic Society collection. It would be of great interest to know the exact composition of this piece for comparison.

If any of our CNL Patrons can provide additional information or data relative to this unique specimen -- please contact the authors. We already have correspondance from Eric P. Newman and from Walter Breen on the piece, and additional comments or observations will be appreciated.



Editor's note:

Ye editor has conducted an optical correlation analysis on these two die impressions. This analysis indicates that the two dies were identical in all respects except for the final digit in the date and for a minor difference in the length and shape of the lower left groundline of the seated figure central device.

This new analytical technique, which we call Numismatic Signature Recognition (NSR), is an optical signal enhancement technique utilizing coherent and non-coherent optical phenomena. It will be described in detail in a future issue of CNL.

JCS



editor's notebook



Perhaps the greatest problem -- and certainly the most frustrating -- associated with publishing any sort of data is that of typographical errors. We have had our share of them. The second most frustrating is the problem of revisions -- as soon as something gets into print, especially in our numismatic specialty, it becomes out of date because of new discoveries or new information on the subject.

When ye editor selected the "Aerospace Contemporary" format that we use for CNL, one of the features that we had in mind was the ease of making corrections and revisions to individual pages, and distributing the amended pages to our Patrons. To date we have not followed this procedure for reasons of cost, but have elected instead to use our limited financial resources to publish new material rather than to revise existing pages.

It is our objective to publish, before this year is out, a comprehensive index for CNL. This index will incorporate our sequential page numbering system and will include a cross-reference chart for identification of pages in the early issues published without the sequential pagination.

As the supply of original copies of early issues is exhausted, we are adding the sequential page numbers to the reprinted pages and as many corrections and revisions as possible -- as these sheets are reissued. It would help if our Patrons will bring to our attention the typographical errors and other goofs that they know to exist. In the meantime we shall continue to periodically list the errata so that our Patrons can annotate their personal copies. For the moment we have the following:

- ERRATA
1. Sequential page 326, Fugio Rarity Table. Add note 13 opposite variety 22-M.
 2. Sequential page 333, letter from Edward R. Barnsley, next to last line. Change 124-I to 125-I.

Richard Picker, whose bags were stolen from the security room during the ANA convention last year is having a very difficult time reconstructing his records. In addition to the loss of all the coins, tokens, medals and paper monies that he had with him, he also lost all of his reference materials and all of the records of his business during the convention. If any of our Patrons had any transactions with Dick during the convention, he would appreciate receiving photo-copies of bills, receipts, invoices and want-lists that are available. Dick's address is P.O. Box 123, Albertson, New York 11507.

Editor's **** **** Notebook



One of our Patrons, Mr. John L. Roper, 2nd of Norfolk, Virginia prepared and exhibited between October 18 and November 27, 1971, at the United Virginia Bank Gallery in Norfolk, one of the nicest Early American Money displays ever produced. Photographs of the exhibit are shown at the left.

The upper photograph shows the entrance to the gallery; visible at the inside left of the entrance is a floor to ceiling wall map of the original thirteen colonies highlighted with mobiles of enlarged coin photographs floating in the illumination of downlights spaced along the ceiling. To the right are visible a few of the vertical display cases.

In the center photograph is an inside view of the wall map and the mobiles, and the lower photograph shown the vertical display cases with their exhibit materials.

This unique decor added greatly to the numismatic material and represented a much needed improvement over the usual dull presentations associated with so many exhibits.

The specimens in Mr. Roper's comprehensive exhibit were grouped in chronological order and included many foreign issues used in the Colonies as well as a representative collection of Washington tokens, "Colonial" and State issues, up to and including the first United States Mint issues of 1793. Both coins and paper monies were included.

At the conclusion of the exhibit Mr. Roper commented that "I enjoyed the six weeks recognition of my collection, but won't do it again in a hurry." In spite of his statement, we certainly hope Mr. Roper will maintain

the exhibit intact for use again in the not too distant future. There is a tremendous need to educate the general public on the subject of Early American numismatics -- especially as we approach the 200th anniversary of our Nation's birth -- and Mr. Roper's exhibit is an excellent example of what is needed.